

MINUTES
SHAUGH PRIOR PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting Held on

Wednesday, 4 April 2007

at

Shaugh Recreational Hall

Present: Cllr. Mrs. Smerdon (Chairman), Cllrs Howells, Norman and Small and Cllrs. Mrs. Burkill, Miss Rayers and Miss Winter
District Cllrs. Barnes and Hitchins (Part-time)
Mr. S. Finemore

OPEN FORUM

No members of the public were present and therefore no matters were raised.

POLICE BUSINESS

In Constable Yarnold's absence there was no report.

DNPA BUSINESS

In Cllr. French's absence there was no report.

23/07 Apologies

Cllr. John Hart.

24/07 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes were agreed to be a true record of proceedings and were signed by the Chairman.

25/07 Matters Arising

Permissive Path from Shaugh Bridge to Bickleigh Bridge - DCC had advised that they were in discussion with the landowners and would continue with this to establish whether an agreement could be reached to restore the access. Councillors agreed to wait until the next meeting to see if any progress had been made.

Definitive Map - DCC had advised the Clerk that they were not able to supply the Parish council with a map, as their OS Copyright Licence does not allow them to provide maps larger than A3. However, as a lot of amendments were being made in the Lee Moor area they would forward an up to date mapping of the Parish for information, once these changes had been made.

DCC Climate Change Road Show - Cllr. Small advised that the Lee Moor Horticultural Show would be held on Sunday 19 August 2007. The Clerk would advise DCC so that they could attend.

Gordon May - Cllr. Small confirmed that Cllr. May had first become a Councillor for the Parish of Shaugh in 1981. The Clerk would obtain an appropriate plaque for the seat.

Dartmoor Trust - Leats Project – Nothing further.

Parish Maintenance - Mr. Palmer had submitted a quotation for various minor items in the Parish on bus shelters, seats and picnic table maintenance in the sum of £200 which Councillors found acceptable. Mr. Palmer had also submitted a quotation for cleaning bus shelters and grass cutting. The Clerk would confirm with Mr. Haines whether or not he wished to quote for this work and, if not, would accept Mr. Palmer's quotation.

Wotter Kick About Area – Imerys had obtained a quote for both the seeding and the fencing but these had proved more expensive than it was thought necessary. Further quotes were being obtained.

Post Office in Wotter - Negotiations continued.

Speed Limits & Signs – The Solicitors for DCC had copied the Parish Council with an Order for "No Parking in School Entrance Area" between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday to Friday during term time (except for School buses) for Shaugh School. Councillors welcomed this and the Clerk would write in support.

Highway Problems - Loughter Mill - Cllr. Small advised that the road had, he thought, been temporarily patched. The Clerk had received a letter from the City of Plymouth advising that a full response should be received by 17 April 2007. The Clerk would advise the City of Plymouth of Cllr. Small's comments. Cllr. Small also advised that although this area was in Sparkwell Parish, the roadway which passed the top lodge of Newnham Estate needed sweeping. Also the trees were dangerously overhanging the road. The Clerk would report the situation.

Parish Plan - The Clerk had requested an information pack and a notice inviting parishioners to join a working party had been put around the Parish. This would be discussed further at the next

meeting.

Footpath – Wotter “By-pass” – Nothing further.

Lee Moor Pit - The Clerk had forwarded the comments made at the March meeting to Imerys by both post and e-mail but as yet a response had not been received.

Motocross Track - It was confirmed that this area had now been ploughed up.

Affordable Housing in Lee Moor Village - A resident of Lee Moor had forwarded the Clerk a copy of a plan of Lee Moor and she would ascertain whether the marked area fell within the development boundary of the village.

Amendments to the Code of Conduct - Councillors had been copied with the suggested amendments and would discuss the implications at the next meeting.

26/07 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

In Cllr. Hart's absence at another meeting there was no report.

27/07 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllrs. Barnes and Hitchins had reported at the Annual Assembly earlier in the evening.

Cllr. Hitchins confirmed he would look into the problem of tyres being fly-tipped around the Parish. Councillors felt this would be a continuing problem as there was now a charge for their disposal.

Cllr. Howells congratulated South Hams on their new Customer Services Call Centre.

28/07 CORRESPONDENCE

Community Land Trusts - Councillors did not wish to be included in the pilot study for affordable housing.

Sport England - Cllr. Rayers took this information as representative of Lee Moor Hall Committee.

NALC Contract of Employment for the Clerk - A revised version had been circulated. The Clerk would forward a copy to the Chairman and this item would be put on the Agenda for the next meeting.

Memorial Safety - The Clerk would advised the Department for Constitutional Affairs that the Parish Council was not responsible for any burial grounds in the Parish.

South Hams Society Bulletin - The Clerk would forward a copy to Cllr. Burkill.

Lyons Enquiry into Local Government - The Clerk would copy the précis from DAPC to Councillors.

Parish Cluster Meetings - Councillors completed the questionnaire, which the Clerk would return to SHDC.

The Clerk held the following if Councillors wished to read them:-

SHDC Minutes of Meetings
SHDC Executive Forward Plan
South Hams Magazine
Dartmoor Biodiversity Newsletter
Devon County Council Minerals Update
Devon Rural Transport Partnership Newsletter

29/07 REPORT OF REPRESENTATIVES

Website and Computer – The Clerk would again attempt to obtain confirmation in writing from HM Revenue & Customs on the situation with regard to VAT on advertising on the website. Cllrs. Burkill and Rayers were liaising over the formulation of an Events List and how best to include this on the Parish Council website. Cllrs. agreed that the list should be collated by the Parish Council and forwarded to Barry Isaacs. Further discussion on progress would take place at the next meeting. The Clerk's contact details still needed to be added on one page as had the Chairman's details.

School Governors - The Clerk had not yet received a reply to her query to the DAPC.

Play Areas - Cllr. Rayers would obtain quotations for equipment suitable for small children for the Lee Moor play area up to the sum of £1,000, which would include the surfacing.

30/07 PLANNING

a. Decisions by District Council/DNP:

Lee Moor Bowling Club - Extensions to Pavilion - Granted.

1 Broad Oak Cottages, Lee Moor - Alterations - Granted.

b. Applications considered by Parish Council:

Lee Moor Bowling Club - Extension to Pavilion - No objection. The Chairman had forwarded the Hall Committee a grant application form for this project.

c. General

None.

31/07 FINANCE

Request for a Grant - Shelter - Councillors agreed that this was a worthwhile organisation and agreed to make a grant of £50.00.

Request for a Grant - St. Edwards Church - Cllr. Burkill explained that even though the church appeared to have a healthy bank balance, the majority of this money had been donated to them on the understanding it would be put to a particular purpose. However, she did query where in the Accounts the grants by the Parish Council for maintenance of the churchyard were included. The Clerk would obtain the information for the next meeting.

Insurance - As the premium for the year commencing 1 June 2007 was only pennies higher than the previous year, Councillors agreed to accept the quotation.

SLCC Conferences - Councillors agreed that the Clerk should attend the national conference in October and also the Regional Conference to be held in Plymouth in June.

DNPA Historic Buildings Grant - The Chairman explained that trees had fallen over the old cider press buildings, which could cause further damage to the structure. DNPA's Archaeological Department had looked at the situation and had advised that grants could be available for clearing the fallen tree. Cllr. Burkill was concerned that this would mean the building would be repaired and held together with concrete, which was unsightly. Cllrs. agreed that an application for a grant in their name should be made and the Chairman agreed to complete this on the Council's behalf.

It was agreed that the following cheques would be paid:-

DAPC - Subscription (& publications)	£185.10
Konica Minolta (photocopier)	£ 12.01
Community Council for Devon (Subscription)	£ 30.00
Devon Playing Fields Association	£ 15.00
Caroline Hartwell (Parish Quiz expenses)	£ 36.00
Shelter (Grant)	£ 50.00
Cllr. Smerdon (expenses)	£ 36.00
Allianz Cornhill (Parish insurance)	£441.28
SLCC Clerks' conferences	£352.50

32/07 ITEMS TO WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

The Clerk informed the meeting that no election would be held as the number of candidates for a seat on the Parish council had not exceeded the number of seats available. However, she would not be informed until the next day whom the new Parish Councillors would be.

Cllr. Norman again raised the danger of the stones, although now marked with a white line, which stuck out into the roadway on the Beatland Corner to Cadover Bridge road. As these had nearly caused an accident recently, the Clerk was asked to speak to the highways department again about whether they could be removed.

Cllrs. agreed that the notice board at Wotter should now, as the hall was to be sold, be moved to outside the boundary. The Chairman would discuss suitable sites with Mr. Palmer. C also agreed that the old board in Shaugh for public use should be replaced.

Agenda for Sustainability - The Clerk advised that probably the least contentious view would be that climate change was taking place for whatever reason and plans must be made to deal with this, and that energy must be saved. Cllrs. agreed with this. Cllr. Winter would look into areas where the Parish Council could be the drivers. The Clerk suggested she discussed the matter with both Cllr. Hitchins and the appropriate officer at SHDC.

33/07 DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be the AGM had been re-scheduled for Wednesday 16 May 2007 in Shaugh Recreation Hall at 7.15pm. as this would allow the Clerk time after the election to distribute Minutes to new Councillors.

Meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.

Signed:.....
Chairman

Date: